

Michael Klinger

HB 5326

Vote NO on HB 5326 -AN ACT CONCERNING COMPASSIONATE AID IN DYING FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS.

1. **Suicide is one of the worst ways that families can lose a loved one.** There is no closure. **It is a selfish act**, that only seemingly “benefits” the person killing themselves, while the rest of their family is left to grieve & carry the guilt of their absence for a lifetime. ***Knowing this, how can we possibly make this act legal? Have we become this Self-absorbed as a society? Where the ONLY happiness that matters, is MY happiness?***
2. **This bill is a recipe for elder (and doctor) abuse.** Such legislation inevitably leads to a slippery slope, where people can be made to feel guilty about ‘being a burden on their family or on society’. It starts with the terminally ill patient, but can easily expand to other “burdensome” populations of patients, such as: people with disabilities, diabetes, cancer, Parkinsons disease, Muscular Dystrophy, etc. **Our Task, as human beings, is to Love one another, not Terminate one another.** We’re called to ensure that people are loved & cared for, not made to feel a burden. Human life is far more precious than that.
3. **Doctors are supposed to Help, not Kill, their patients.** I oppose licensing doctors to prescribe lethal drugs for the purpose of taking a human life, prescribing suicide as a “treatment”. Assisted Suicide “treats” nothing, it only kills people.
4. **Most people that attempt suicide are clinically depressed. Are these the kind of patients we should be putting lethal doses in front of?** Can you not see the potential for abuse? The great potential loss of human life? The potential life-long pain & guilt of families?
5. **Suicide is the murder of oneself, and Assisted suicide, is the same result.** Is this something we really want readily available? **A healthy society does not Kill its citizens**, or go down the slippery slope of ***offering death, as a "medical solution" to anyone, let alone people who are terminal, vulnerable, probably even, medically depressed.*** A healthy society is called to love and support such vulnerable citizens, not inject them with lethal doses, and say goodbye!
6. To clarify, I do not support keeping a patient alive -by extraordinary means (being kept alive by a machine only)- against that patient's will. But that is a far cry from assisting the Murder of someone. I DO support true aid-in-dying, which is hospice care, where a patient’s dignity, worth, and medical treatment, is always upheld.
7. Assisted Suicide is bad public policy that puts vulnerable populations at risk. It is a recipe for elder abuse.

Michael Klinger
180 Beverly Rd
Wethersfield, CT